Strawberry Shortcake™
Field Day
and Other Stories

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and Other Stories
AUC entertainment
KIZOIC

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Field Day!
Written by: Georgia Ball
Art & Colors by: Amy Mebberson
Letters by: Adrian Martinez

Huckleberry Hill
Written by: Georgia Ball
Art by: Edgar Manjarrez
Colors by: Antonio & Fernando Peniche
Letters by: Adrian Martinez

A Recipe for Friendship
Written by: Russell Lissau & Meredith Lissau
Art by: Tanya Roberts
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Strawberryshortcake.com

AMERICAN GREETINGS

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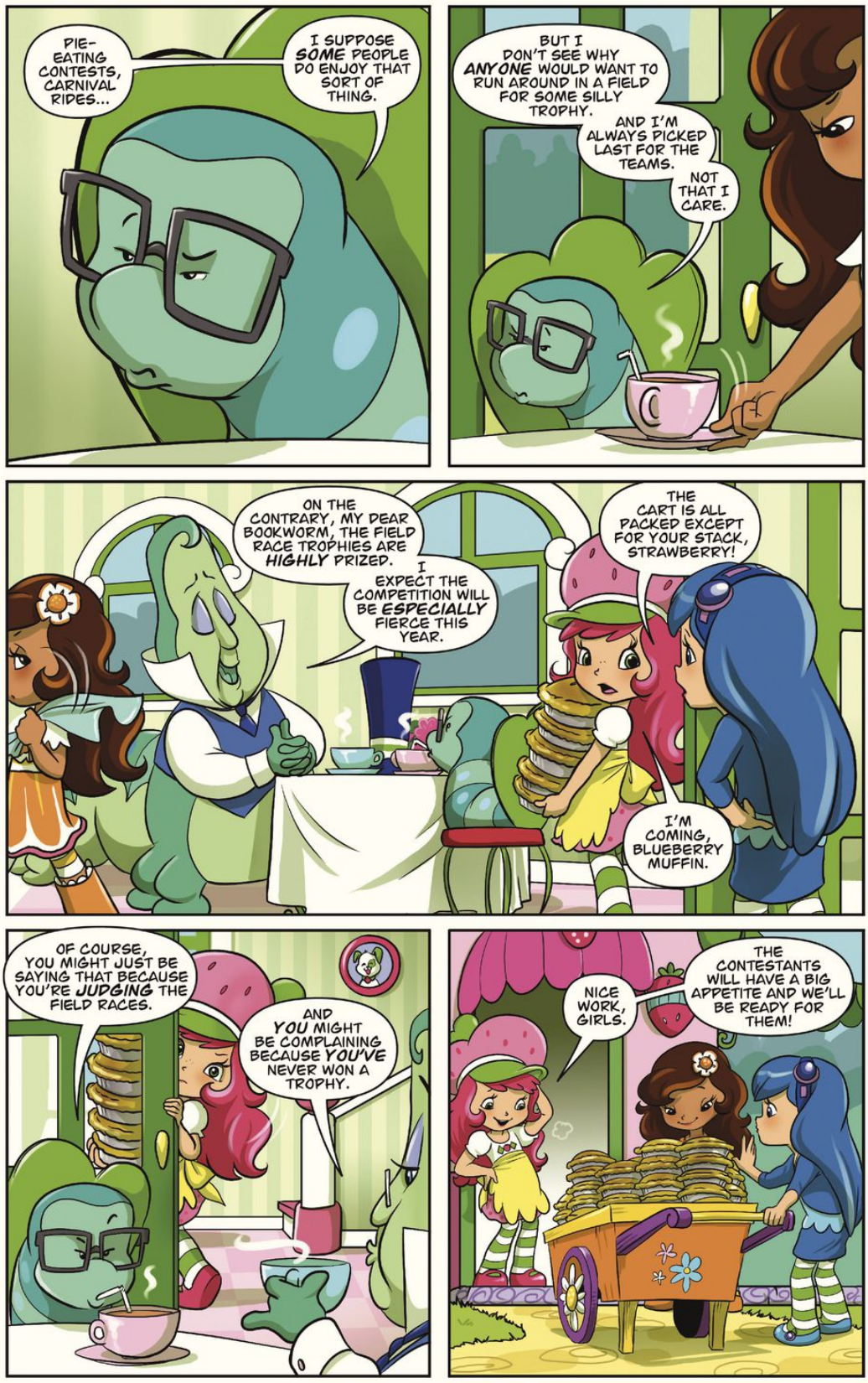
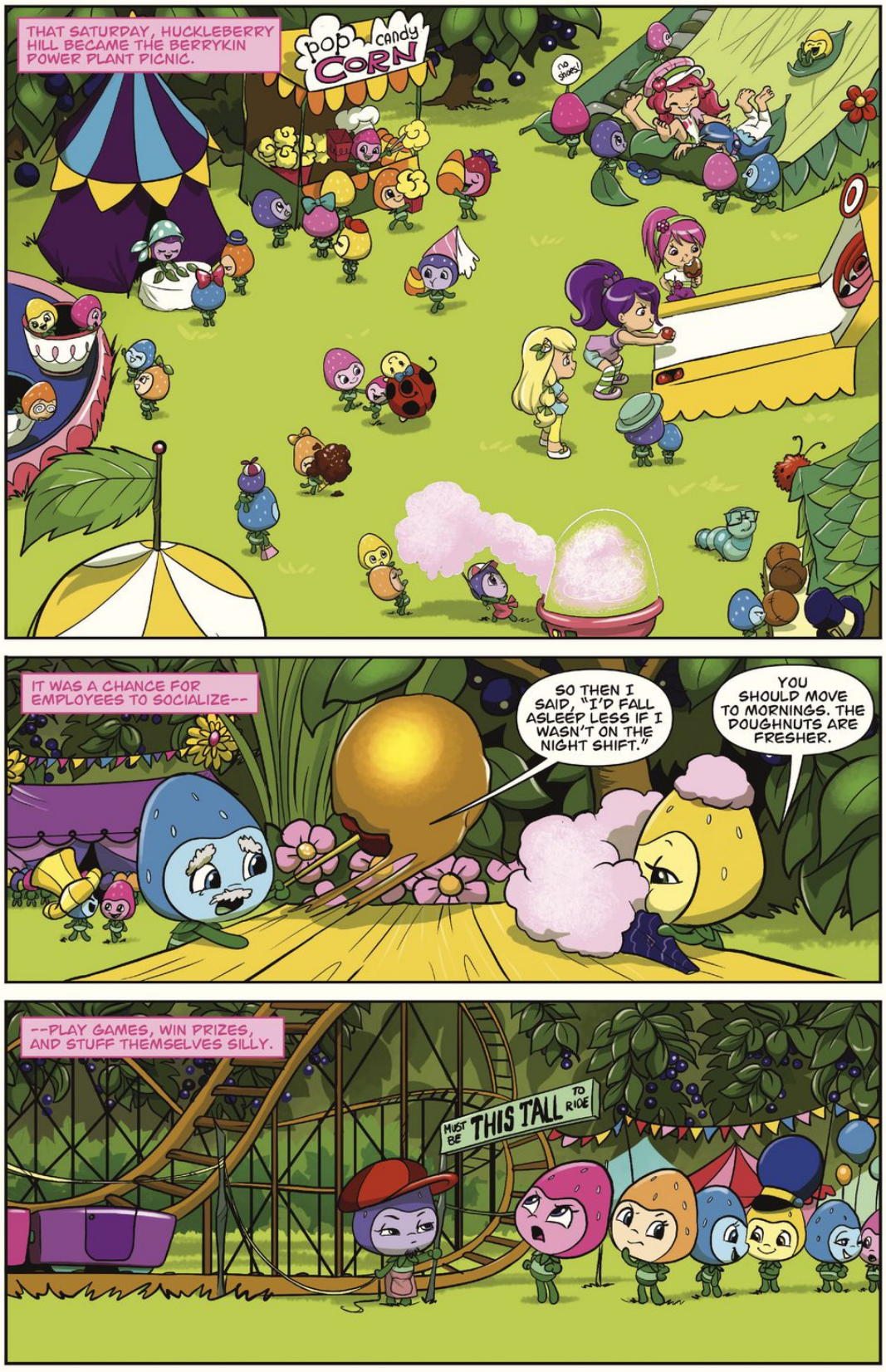
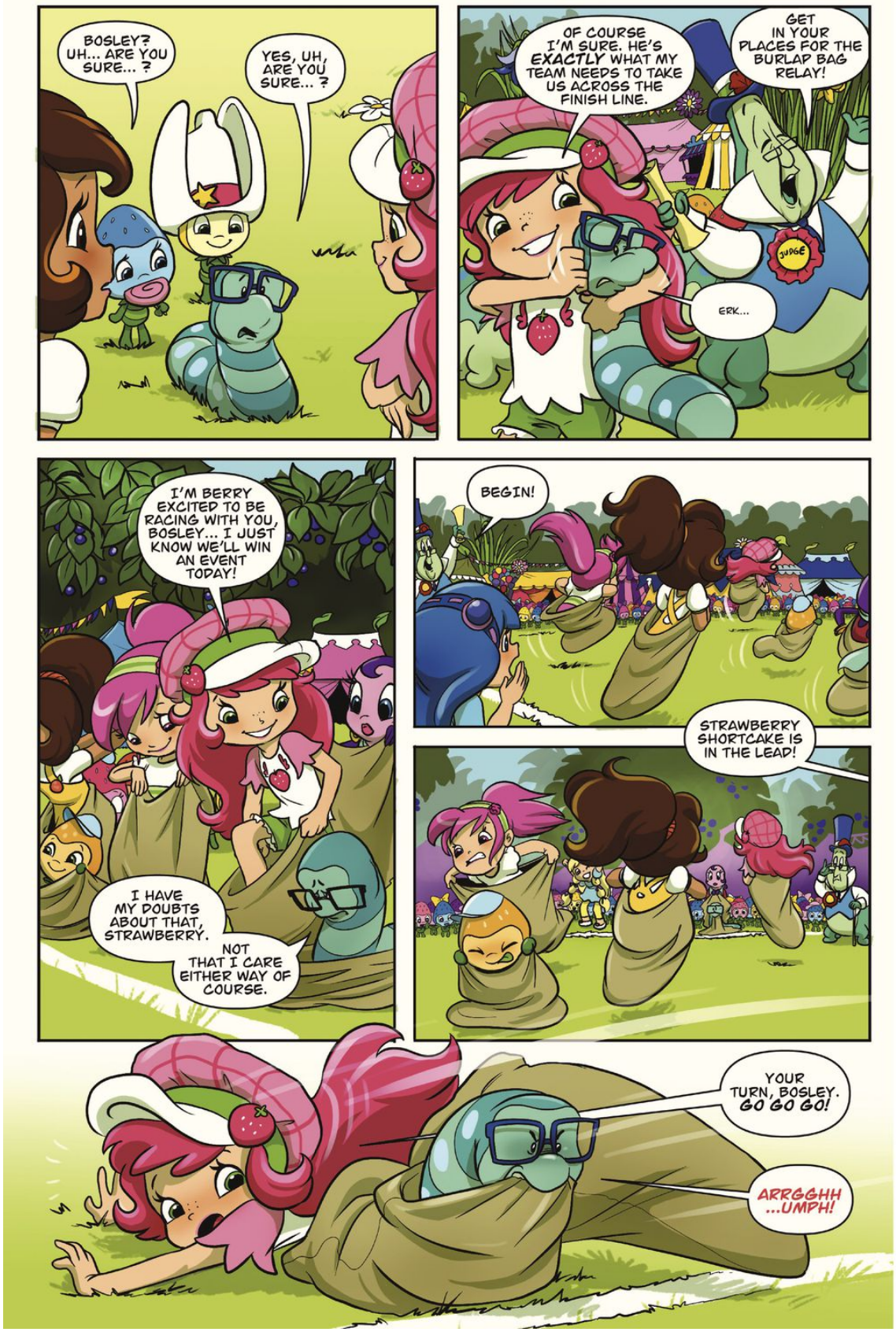
FIELD DAY!
Writer: Georgia Ball
Editor: Weldon Adams
Artist: Amy Mebberson
Letterer: AW's Adrian Martinez
THE BERRY CAFÉ SEEMS ALL OUT OF SORTS, DON'T YOU THINK SO, BOSLEY?
I AGREE, MR. LONGFACE. THE SERVICE IS UNUSUALLY SLOW.
flour
PARDON ME, MISS SHORTCAKE, BUT WILL YOU BE ABLE TO TAKE OUR ORDER SOON?
OH! OF COURSE, I'M SORRY... IT'S JUST THAT WE HAVE A LOT OF PIES TO BAKE TODAY.
THE BERRYKIN POWER PLANT PICNIC IS HOLDING A PIE-EATING CONTEST.
THEY NEEDED SO MANY PIES I HAD TO ASK FOR HELP.
THE POWER PLANT PICNIC?!
DIDN'T THEY JUST HAVE ONE LAST YEAR?
WELL, YES... THEY HAVE ONE EVERY YEAR. THE PICNIC IS THIS WEEKEND.
OF COURSE I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
PRINCESS BERRYKIN HAS GRACIOUSLY ASKED ME TO JUDGE THE TEAM FIELD EVENTS AGAIN.
ER, TWO CUPS OF TEA PLEASE.

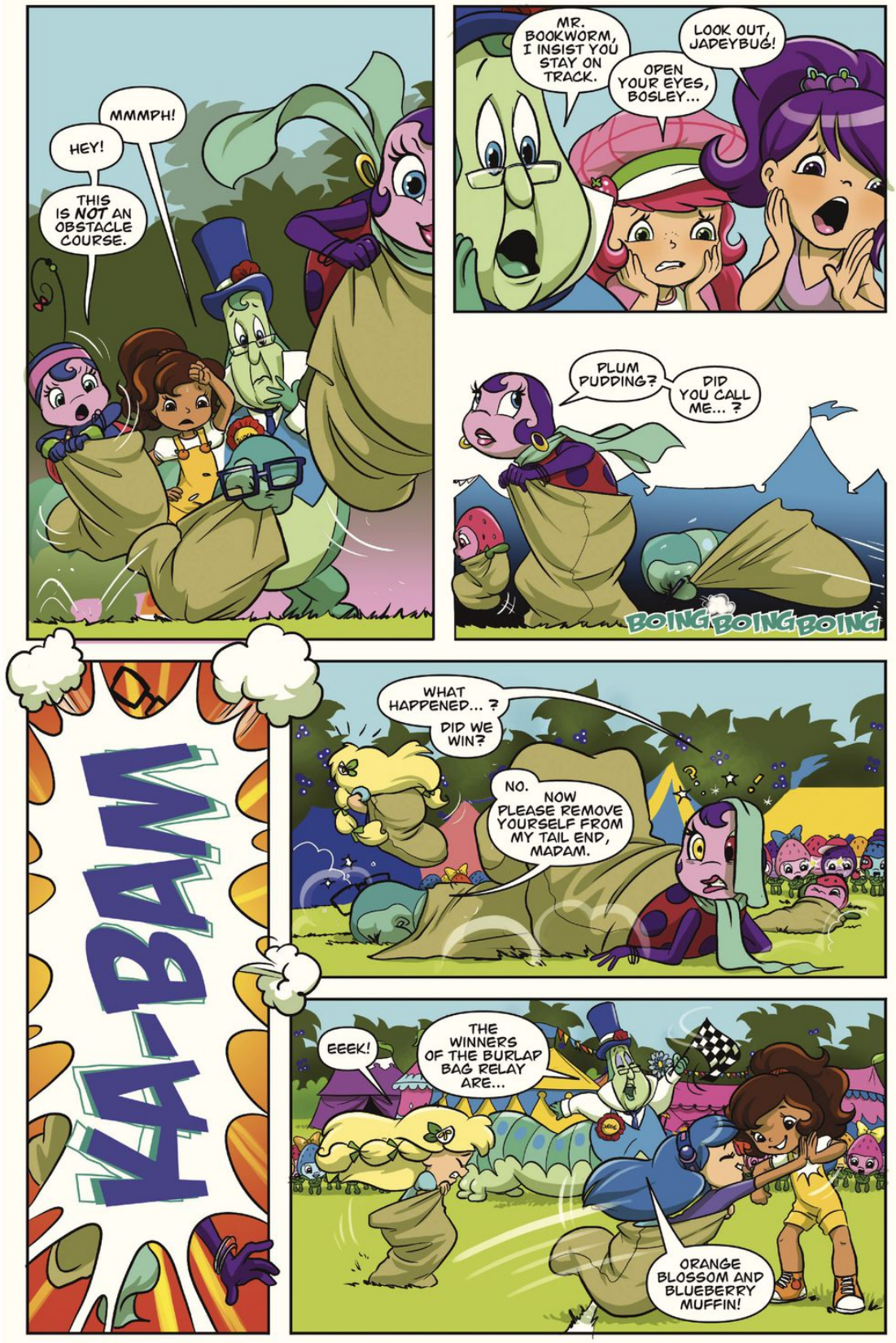

PIE-EATING CONTESTS, CARNIVAL RIDES...
I SUPPOSE *SOME* PEOPLE DO ENJOY THAT SORT OF THING.
BUT I DON'T SEE WHY *ANYONE* WOULD WANT TO RUN AROUND IN A FIELD FOR SOME SILLY TROPHY.
AND I'M ALWAYS PICKED LAST FOR THE TEAMS.
NOT THAT I CARE.
ON THE CONTRARY, MY DEAR BOOKWORM, THE FIELD RACE TROPHIES ARE *HIGHLY* PRIZED.
I EXPECT THE COMPETITION WILL BE *ESPECIALLY* FIERCE THIS YEAR.
THE CART IS ALL PACKED EXCEPT FOR YOUR STACK, STRAWBERRY!
I'M COMING, BLUEBERRY MUFFIN.
OF COURSE, YOU MIGHT JUST BE SAYING THAT BECAUSE YOU'RE *JUDGING* THE FIELD RACES.
AND *YOU* MIGHT BE COMPLAINING BECAUSE *YOU'VE* NEVER WON A TROPHY.
NICE WORK, GIRLS.
THE CONTESTANTS WILL HAVE A BIG APPETITE AND WE'LL BE READY FOR THEM!

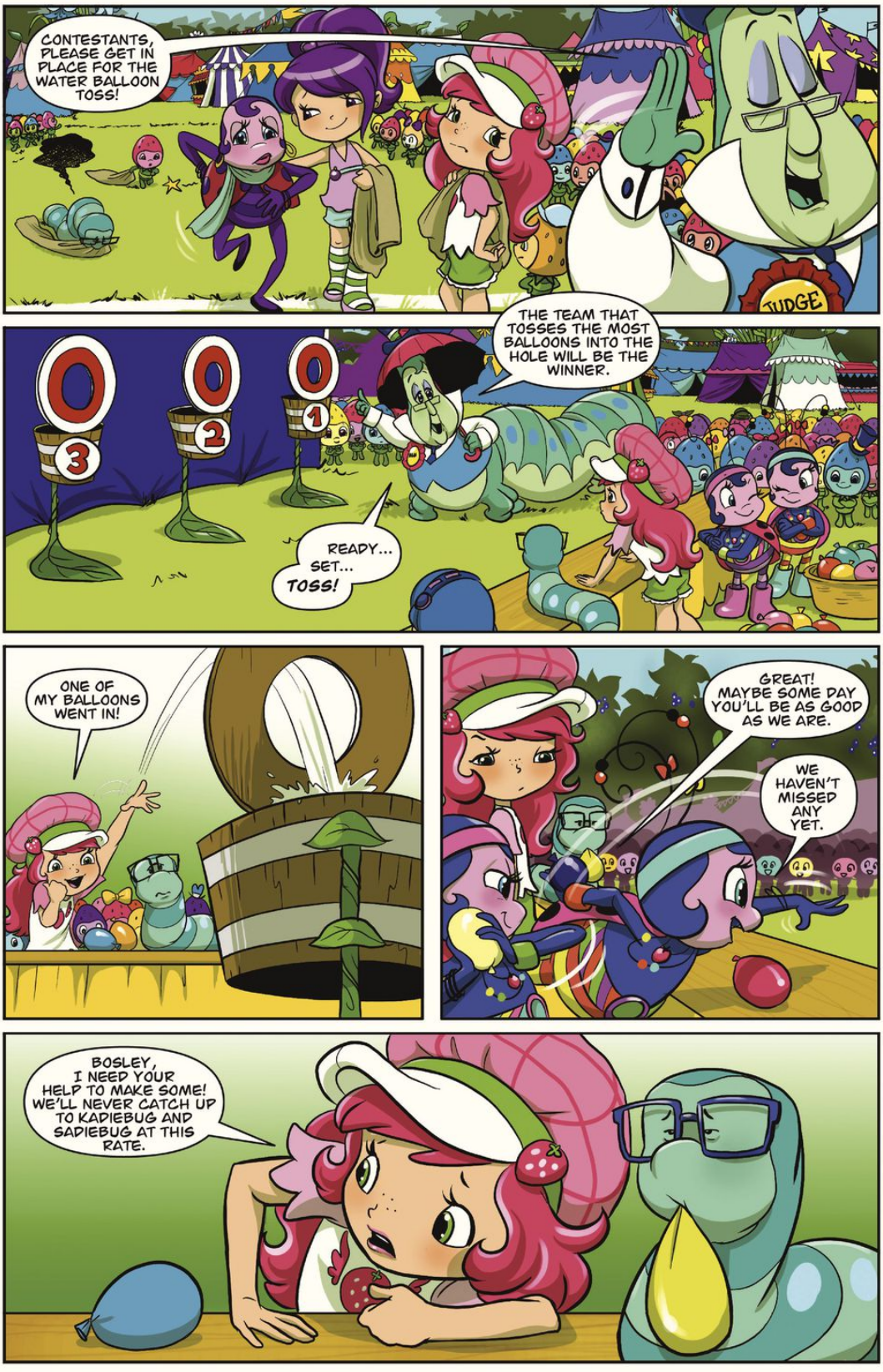
YOU KNOW, I ALWAYS THOUGHT EVERYONE IN BERRY BITTY CITY LOVED THE BERRYKIN POWER PLANT PICNIC...
UNTIL THIS MORNING.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, ORANGE BLOSSOM?
WHY DOES BOSLEY BOOKWORM ALWAYS GET CHOSEN LAST FOR THE TEAMS?
WELL...
BOSLEY IS REALLY SMART. BUT...
BUT HE'S NOT VERY ATHLETIC.
BESIDES, ANYONE WOULD HAVE TROUBLE BEATING US.
WE'VE BEEN TRAINING FOR THE SACK RACE FOR WEEKS.
MY HAIR STILL SMELLS LIKE POTATOES!
IT'S HARD TO ENJOY A GAME WHEN NO ONE WANTS YOU ON THEIR TEAM.
I WONDER IF BOSLEY WOULD CHANGE HIS MIND IF THINGS HAPPENED A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY THIS TIME?


THAT SATURDAY, HUCKLEBERRY HILL BECAME THE BERRYKIN POWER PLANT PICNIC.
pop CORN candy
WHOOSH!
IT WAS A CHANCE FOR EMPLOYEES TO SOCIALIZE--
SO THEN I SAID, "I'D FALL ASLEEP LESS IF I WASN'T ON THE NIGHT SHIFT."
YOU SHOULD MOVE TO MORNINGS. THE DOUGHNUTS ARE FRESHER.
--PLAY GAMES, WIN PRIZES, AND STUFF THEMSELVES SILLY.
MUST BE THIS TALL TO RIDE

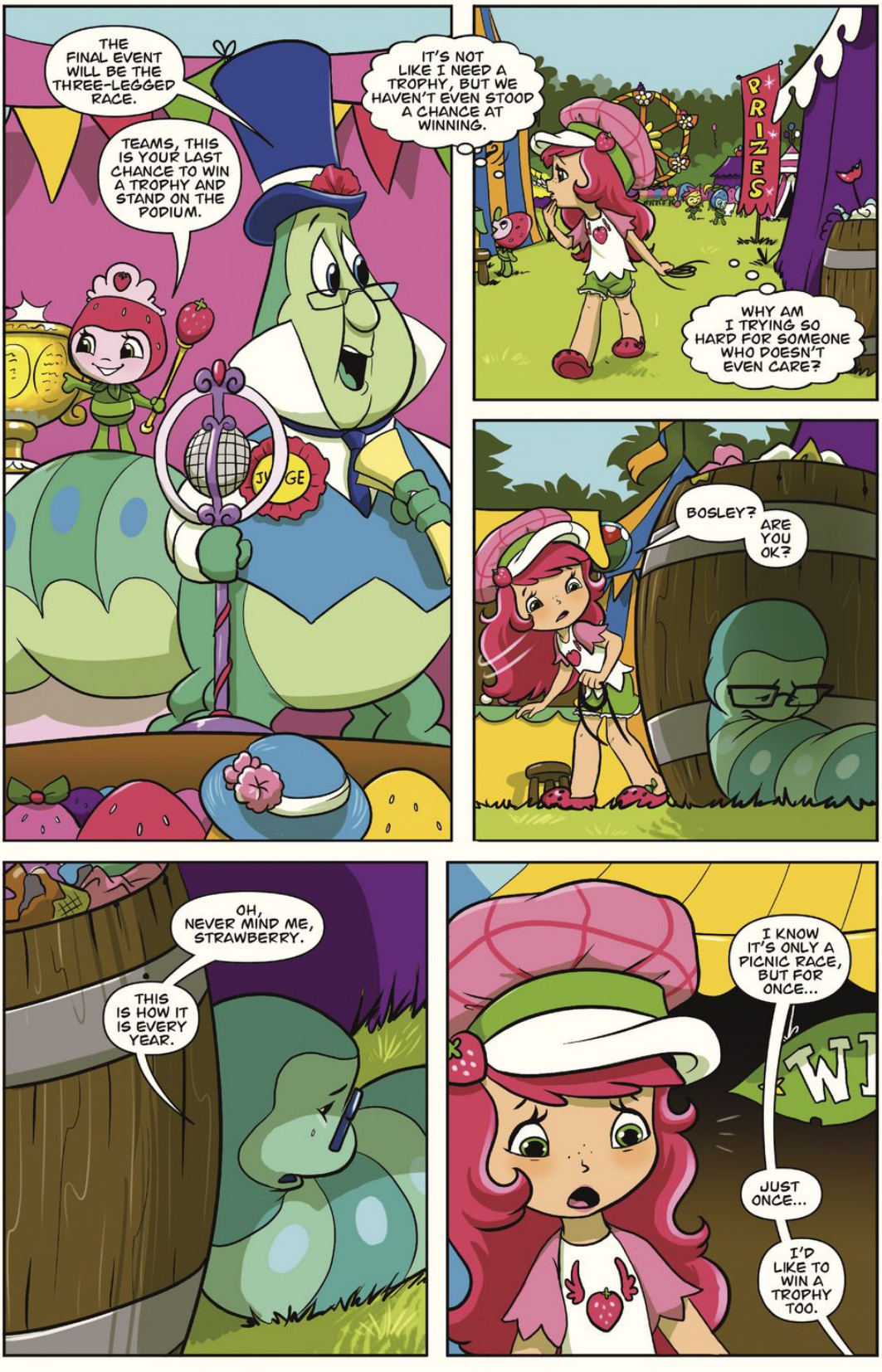
BUT WHAT THEY LOOKED FORWARD TO MOST WERE THE RACES IN HUCKLEBERRY FIELD.
GATHER AROUND PLEASE... THE COMPETITION IS ABOUT TO START!
JUDGE
OH MY! THERE ARE A LOT OF NAMES ON THIS LIST...
EVERYONE WHO SIGNED UP FOR THE RACES MUST PAIR UP INTO TEAMS OF TWO.
GO TEAM!
I CHOOSE LEMON MERINGUE!
I CHOOSE RASPBERRY TORTE!
YOU'RE WITH ME, JADEYBUG.
HOW NICE... WHERE ARE WE GOING?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE? WHO WILL YOUR PARTNER BE?
I CHOOSE...
BOSLEY BOOKWORM!
BWAAA?!


BOSLEY? UH... ARE YOU SURE... ?
YES, UH, ARE YOU SURE... ?
OF COURSE I'M SURE. HE'S EXACTLY WHAT MY TEAM NEEDS TO TAKE US ACROSS THE FINISH LINE.
GET IN YOUR PLACES FOR THE BURLAP BAG RELAY!
JUDGE
ERK...
I'M BERRY EXCITED TO BE RACING WITH YOU, BOSLEY... I JUST KNOW WE'LL WIN AN EVENT TODAY!
I HAVE MY DOUBTS ABOUT THAT, STRAWBERRY.
NOT THAT I CARE EITHER WAY OF COURSE.
BEGIN!
STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE IS IN THE LEAD!
YOUR TURN, BOSLEY. GO GO GO!
ARRGGHH ...UMPH!


MMMPH!
HEY!
THIS IS NOT AN OBSTACLE COURSE.
MR. BOOKWORM, I INSIST YOU STAY ON TRACK.
OPEN YOUR EYES, BOSLEY...
LOOK OUT, JADEYBUG!
PLUM PUDDING?
DID YOU CALL ME... ?
BOING BOING BOING
KA-BAM
WHAT HAPPENED... ?
DID WE WIN?
NO. NOW PLEASE REMOVE YOURSELF FROM MY TAIL END, MADAM.
EEEK!
THE WINNERS OF THE BURLAP BAG RELAY ARE...
ORANGE BLOSSOM AND BLUEBERRY MUFFIN!


CONTESTANTS, PLEASE GET IN PLACE FOR THE WATER BALLOON TOSS!
JUDGE
THE TEAM THAT TOSSES THE MOST BALLOONS INTO THE HOLE WILL BE THE WINNER.
3
2
1
READY... SET... TOSS!
ONE OF MY BALLOONS WENT IN!
GREAT! MAYBE SOME DAY YOU'LL BE AS GOOD AS WE ARE.
WE HAVEN'T MISSED ANY YET.
BOSLEY, I NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE SOME! WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO KADIEBUG AND SADIEBUG AT THIS RATE.

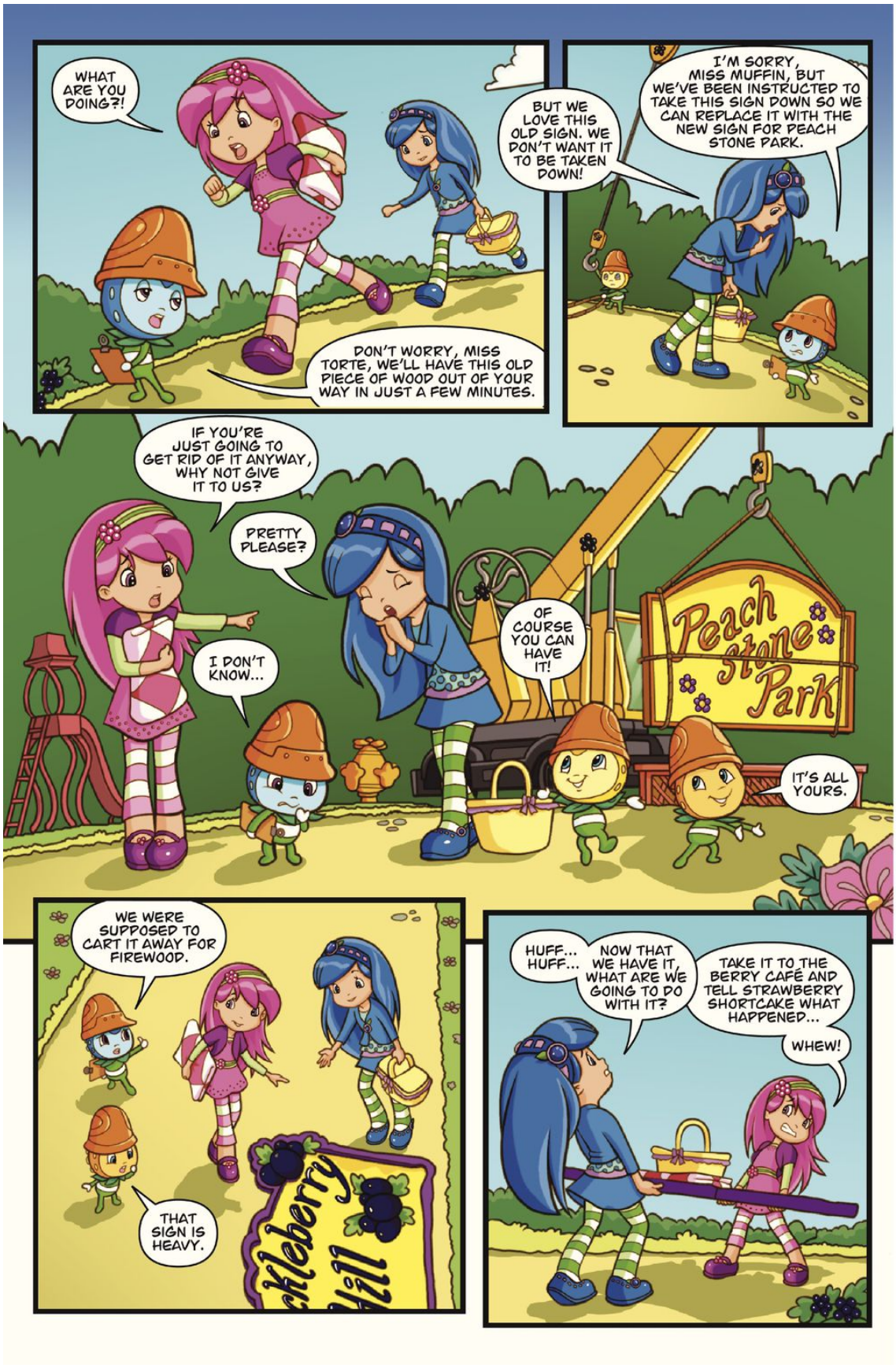
'ERE... GOES... UMPH...
NOTHING...
EEEP!
HEADS UP!
WHA-
EW...
TIME'S UP... COUNT YOUR BALLOONS!
THE WINNERS ARE... KADIEBUG AND SADIEBUG!
AFTER ALL, WE'VE HAD SO MUCH PRACTICE.
THROWING WATER BALLOONS AT OUR FRIENDS ALL YEAR REALLY PAID OFF.


THE FINAL EVENT WILL BE THE THREE-LEGGED RACE.
TEAMS, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO WIN A TROPHY AND STAND ON THE PODIUM.
JUDGE
IT'S NOT LIKE I NEED A TROPHY, BUT WE HAVEN'T EVEN STOOD A CHANCE AT WINNING.
PRIZES
WHY AM I TRYING SO HARD FOR SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T EVEN CARE?
BOSLEY? ARE YOU OK?
OH, NEVER MIND ME, STRAWBERRY.
THIS IS HOW IT IS EVERY YEAR.
I KNOW IT'S ONLY A PICNIC RACE, BUT FOR ONCE...
JUST ONCE...
I'D LIKE TO WIN A TROPHY TOO.

IS THAT HOW YOU REALLY FEEL?
I PRETEND I DON'T CARE BECAUSE I KNOW IT'S HOPELESS.
NOTHING IS EVER HOPELESS.
I THINK I HAVE AN IDEA.
GET READY FOR THE GREATEST RACE OF YOUR LIFE, BOSLEY BOOKWORM!
IS IT TOO LATE TO CHANGE MY MIND?
GET SET...
GO!
JUDGE
WAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHH

WE DID IT BOSLEY, WE WON THE RACE!
IS IT SAFE TO OPEN MY EYES?
AREN'T THE RACERS SUPPOSED TO HAVE THREE LEGS?
ONLY IF BOTH OF THEM HAVE LEGS.
RULES
THE WINNERS OF THE THREE-LEGGED RACE ARE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE AND BOSLEY BOOKWORM!
JUDGE
CAN I GET DOWN NOW?
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE REALLY DID IT.
I KNEW WE'D WIN SOMETHING.
AFTER ALL, NOTHING IS HOPELESS.
NOT THAT I CARE.
The End

HUCKLEBERRY HILL
Story: Georgia Ball
Art: Edgar Manajarrez
Colors: Fernando Peniche
Letters: AW's Adrian Martinez
Edits: Weldon Adams
IT'S BEEN MONTHS SINCE WE'VE HAD A PICNIC ON HUCKLEBERRY HILL.
I KNOW, RASPBERRY. WE HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN THE NEW PLAYGROUND YET.
I DO WANT TO SEE THE PLAYGROUND, BLUEBERRY MUFFIN...
BUT MY FAVORITE THING ABOUT HUCKLEBERRY HILL IS THAT IT NEVER CHANGES.
MINE TOO!
IT'S ALWAYS UP THE SAME GRAVEL PATH--
AND OVER THE LOG...
UNTIL YOU REACH THE GOOD OLD YELLOW AND PURPLE SIGN.
GASP!
Huckleberry Hill
BE CAREFUL TAKING THAT THING DOWN! SOMEONE COULD GET HURT.


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
DON'T WORRY, MISS TORTE, WE'LL HAVE THIS OLD PIECE OF WOOD OUT OF YOUR WAY IN JUST A FEW MINUTES.
BUT WE LOVE THIS OLD SIGN. WE DON'T WANT IT TO BE TAKEN DOWN!
I'M SORRY, MISS MUFFIN, BUT WE'VE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TAKE THIS SIGN DOWN SO WE CAN REPLACE IT WITH THE NEW SIGN FOR PEACH STONE PARK.
IF YOU'RE JUST GOING TO GET RID OF IT ANYWAY, WHY NOT GIVE IT TO US?
PRETTY PLEASE?
I DON'T KNOW...
OF COURSE YOU CAN HAVE IT!
IT'S ALL YOURS.
Peach Stone Park
WE WERE SUPPOSED TO CART IT AWAY FOR FIREWOOD.
THAT SIGN IS HEAVY.
HUFF... HUFF...
NOW THAT WE HAVE IT, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH IT?
TAKE IT TO THE BERRY CAFÉ AND TELL STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE WHAT HAPPENED...
WHEW!

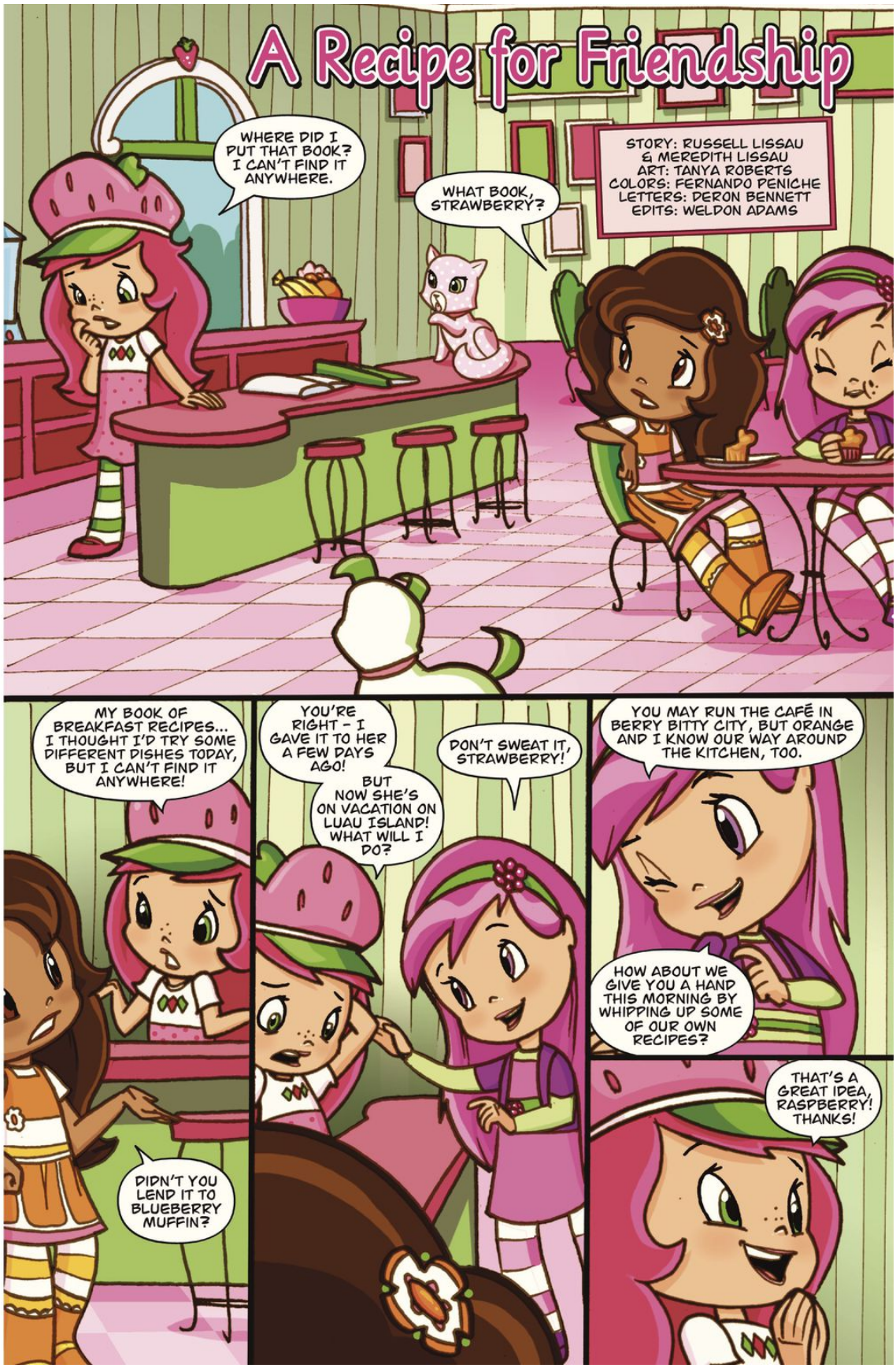
A LITTLE WHILE LATER...
STRAWBERRY, YOU HAVE TO HELP!
THE SIGN FOR HUCKLEBERRY HILL IS BEING REPLACED!
I KNOW.
Huckleberry Hill

YOU KNOW?!
BUT THAT SIGN HAS BEEN THERE FOREVER. HOW COULD YOU LET THAT HAPPEN?
WELL...
Huckleberry Hill

"FOR ONE THING, THE BERRYKINS MOVED ALL OF THE HUCKLEBERRY BUSHES TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE PLAYGROUND."
BUT I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO PEACH STONE PARK?
I WANNA GO TO THE PARK...
WAAAAAAA!!!!
Huckleberry Hill
"AND THE SIGN WAS CONFUSING THE BABY BERRYKINS."

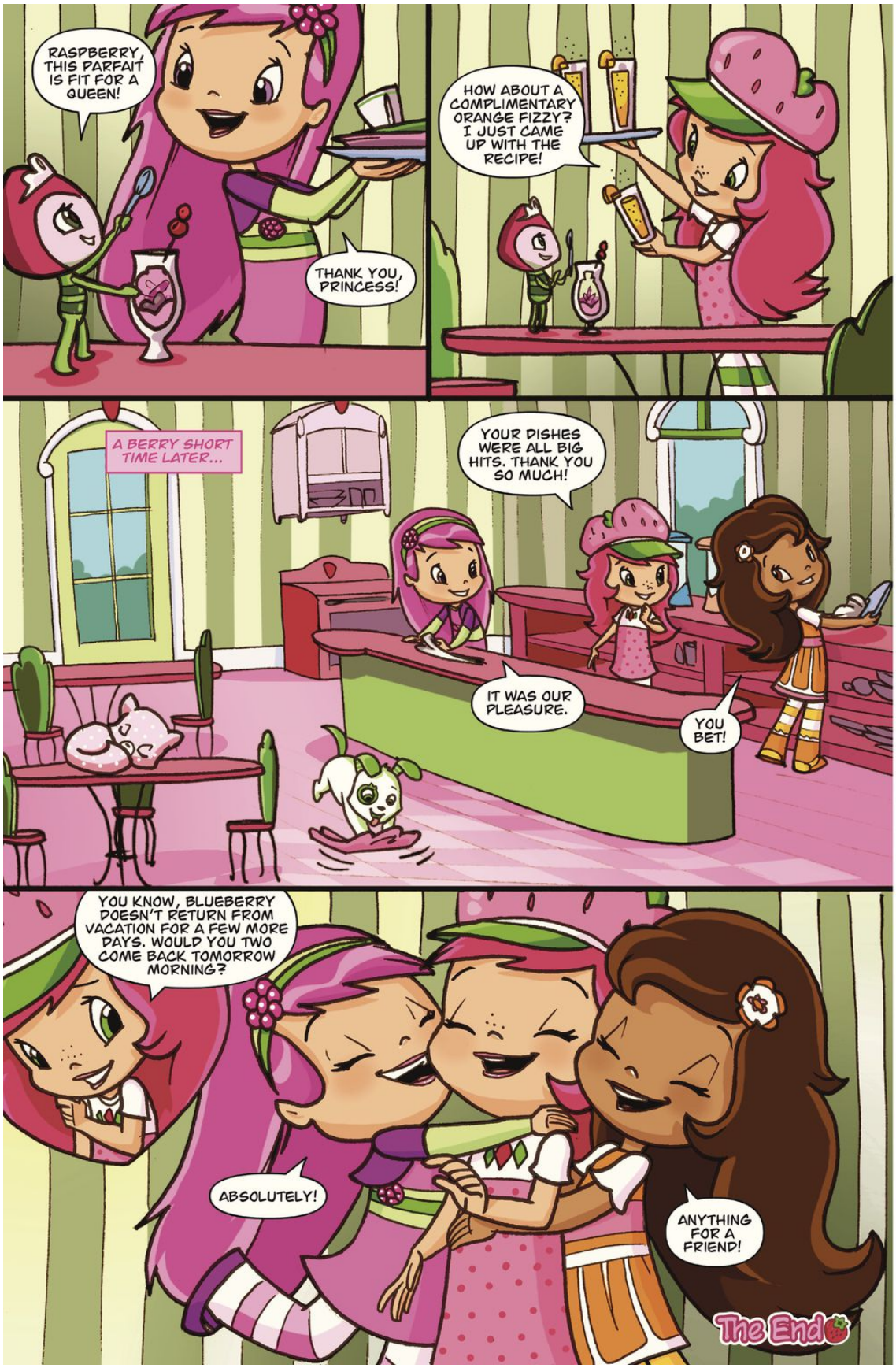
AND THIS SIGN IS GETTING VERY OLD...
IT'S SO CRACKED YOU CAN HARDLY READ IT ANYMORE.

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT YOU'RE RIGHT.
I GUESS WE'RE JUST BEING SILLY.
Huckle Hill
Huckleberry Hill
BUT THIS SIGN MAKES ME THINK OF ALL THE GOOD TIMES I'VE HAD ON HUCKLEBERRY HILL.
IT'S KIND OF LIKE LOSING AN OLD FRIEND.
I'LL MISS IT TOO, RASPBERRY.
IF YOU AND BLUEBERRY COME BACK WITH ME TO THE ORANGE MART, I THINK I CAN HELP.
ALL THIS PROBLEM NEEDS IS A LITTLE PAINT AND A CHANGE OF SCENERY!
I WONDER WHAT ORANGE BLOSSOM HAS IN MIND?
IT'S JUST THE RIGHT NAME FOR JUST THE RIGHT PLACE!
Huckleberry Hollow
THAT OLD SIGN HAS BEEN IN THE RAIN SO MANY TIMES, A LITTLE MORE WATER WON'T HURT IT!
The End

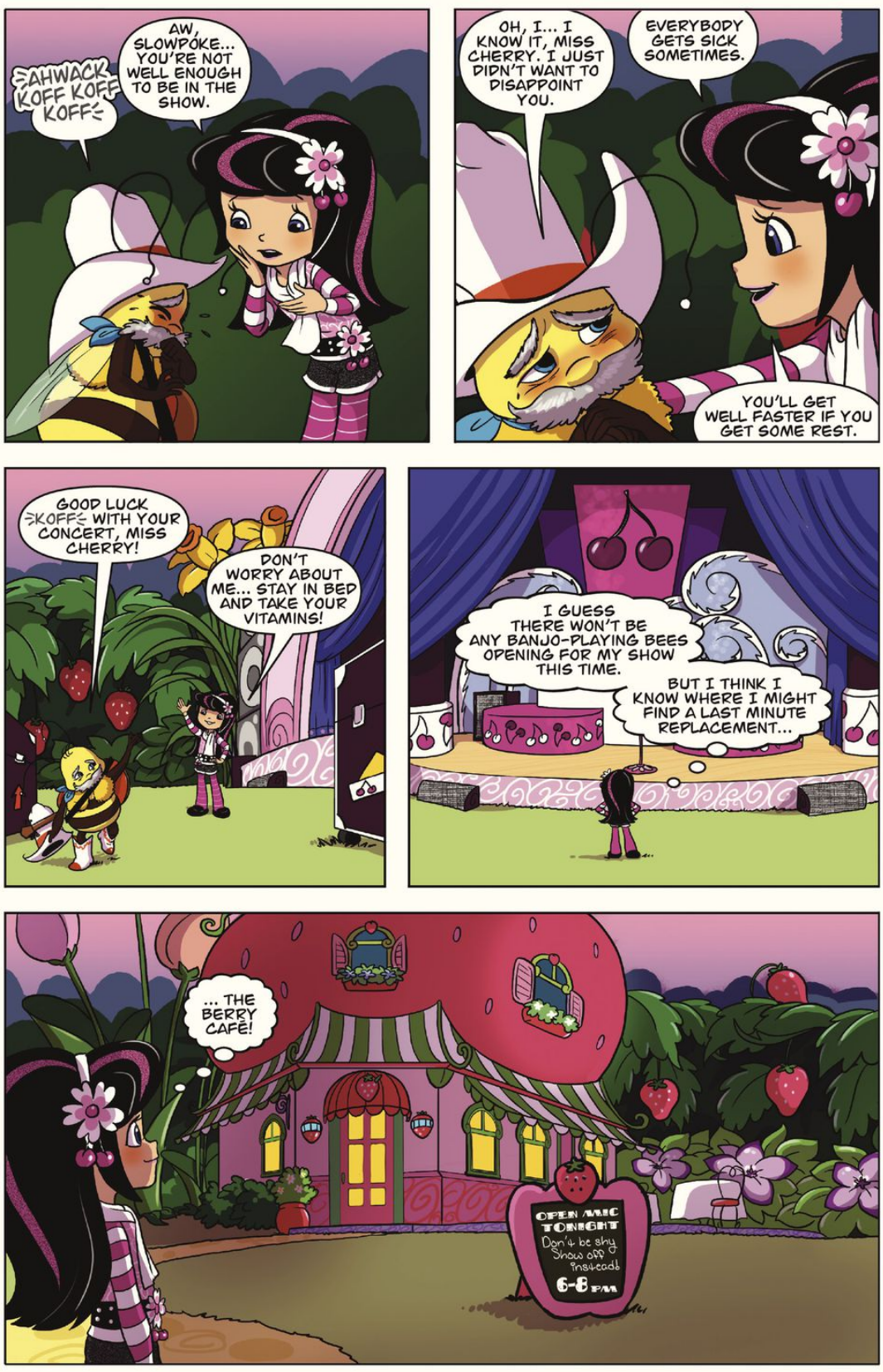

A Recipe for Friendship
STORY: RUSSELL LISSAU & MEREDITH LISSAU
ART: TANYA ROBERTS
COLORS: FERNANDO PENICHE
LETTERS: DERON BENNETT
EDITS: WELDON ADAMS
WHERE DID I PUT THAT BOOK? I CAN'T FIND IT ANYWHERE.
WHAT BOOK, STRAWBERRY?
MY BOOK OF BREAKFAST RECIPES... I THOUGHT I'D TRY SOME DIFFERENT DISHES TODAY, BUT I CAN'T FIND IT ANYWHERE!
DIDN'T YOU LEND IT TO BLUEBERRY MUFFIN?
YOU'RE RIGHT - I GAVE IT TO HER A FEW DAYS AGO!
BUT NOW SHE'S ON VACATION ON LUAU ISLAND! WHAT WILL I DO?
DON'T SWEAT IT, STRAWBERRY!
YOU MAY RUN THE CAFÉ IN BERRY BITTY CITY, BUT ORANGE AND I KNOW OUR WAY AROUND THE KITCHEN, TOO.
HOW ABOUT WE GIVE YOU A HAND THIS MORNING BY WHIPPING UP SOME OF OUR OWN RECIPES?
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA, RASPBERRY! THANKS!

I'LL MAKE BANANA PANCAKES.
I'LL MAKE STRAWBERRY YOGURT PARFAITS.
AND I'LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR MY FAMOUS SMOOTHIES!
RASPBERRY, BEFORE WE START, WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME WHAT INGREDIENTS YOU'LL NEED, AND I'LL GET THEM FROM THE ORANGE MART.
LET'S SEE... WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF STRAWBERRIES, SO I THINK I ONLY NEED A BOX OF GRANOLA AND A TUB OR TWO OF VANILLA YOGURT.
I'M ON IT!

ORANGE, HOW ARE THOSE PANCAKES COMING FOR MR. LONGFACE?
ONE STACK WITH EXTRA BUTTER...
...COMING RIGHT UP!
DON'T FORGET THE GARNISH!
I FIGURED I COULD PUT MY FASHION AND DESIGN SENSE TO WORK, TOO!
ENJOY, MR. LONGFACE.
WHY, THIS LOOKS TOO GOOD TO EAT!
HE LIKES IT! HE REALLY LIKES IT!


RASPBERRY, THIS PARFAIT IS FIT FOR A QUEEN!
THANK YOU, PRINCESS!
HOW ABOUT A COMPLIMENTARY ORANGE FIZZY? I JUST CAME UP WITH THE RECIPE!
A BERRY SHORT TIME LATER...
YOUR DISHES WERE ALL BIG HITS. THANK YOU SO MUCH!
IT WAS OUR PLEASURE.
YOU BET!
YOU KNOW, BLUEBERRY DOESN'T RETURN FROM VACATION FOR A FEW MORE DAYS. WOULD YOU TWO COME BACK TOMORROW MORNING?
ABSOLUTELY!
ANYTHING FOR A FRIEND!
The End

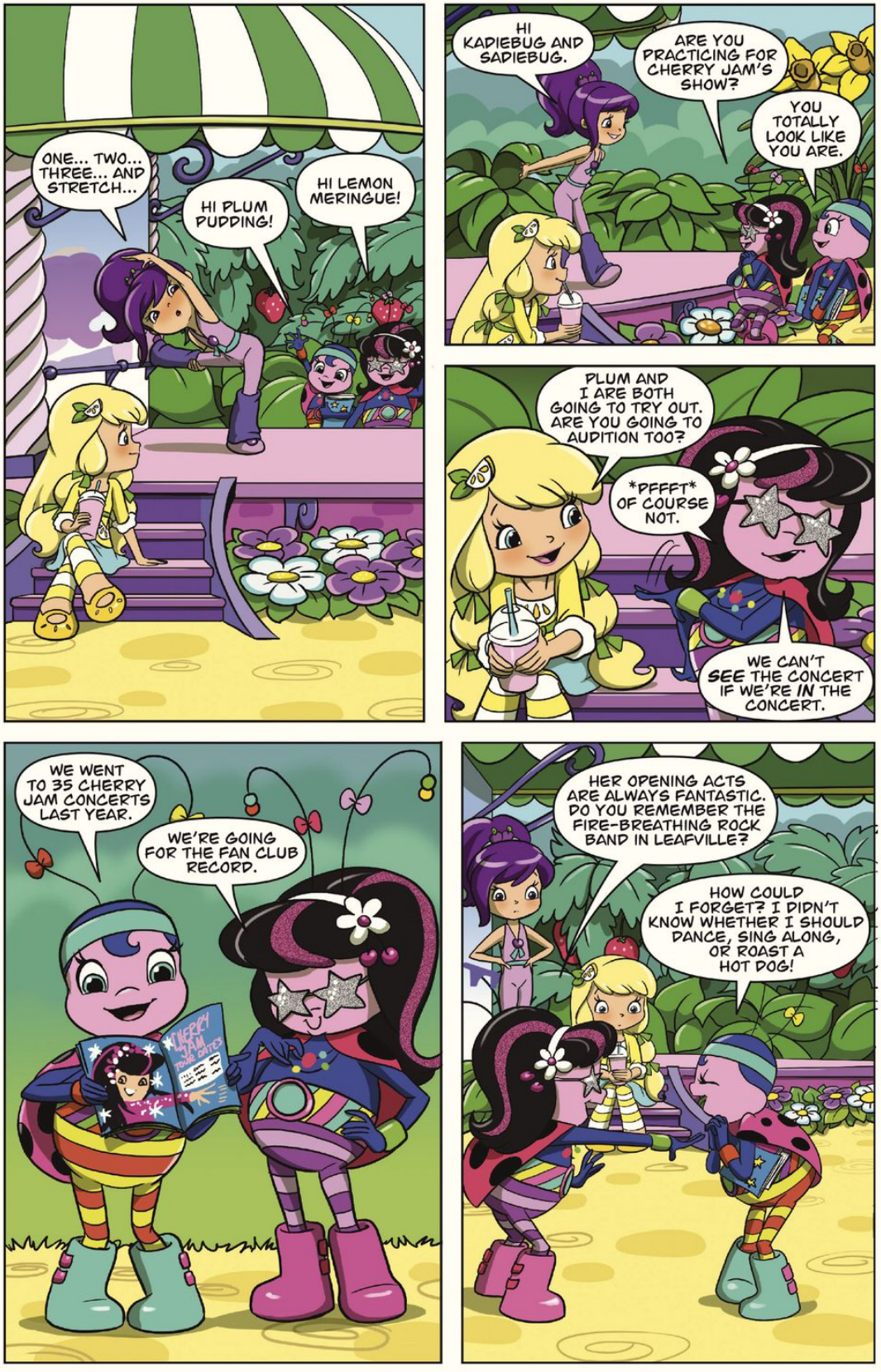
OPENING ACT
Story: Georgia Ball
Art & Colors: Amy Mebberson
Letters: AW's Adrian Martinez
Editor: Weldon Adams
YOU WERE RIGHT, STAN... IT WAS A GOOD IDEA TO ARRIVE IN BERRY BITTY CITY A FEW DAYS EARLY.
NOW WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO PLAN THE BIGGEST CONCERT WE'VE EVER DONE!
WE ALSO HAVE MORE TIME TO SMOOTH OUT THE ROUGH PATCHES.
...LIKE LAST WEEK WHEN THE SPOTLIGHT CAME ON TOO SOON? I HADN'T GOTTEN MY ARMS IN MY COAT SLEEVES YET.
THERE WON'T BE ANY SLIPS UP LIKE THAT FROM MY CREW IN THIS WEEK'S SHOW, I PROMISE.
WE'RE TAKING OFF FOR THE EVENING, CHERRY JAM. DO YOU WANT US TO TURN OUT THE LIGHTS?
OH NO, PLEASE LEAVE THEM ON.
I'M EXPECTING MY OPENING ACT TO MEET ME HERE ANY MINUTE.
=KOFF KOFF=
HERE I AM, MISS CHERRY...
SLOWPOKE STU...? ARE YOU SICK?!
IT'S JUST A LITTLE FROG IN MY THROAT... I'M AS FRISKY AS EVER!
OHHHHH YOU GET A HOOK AND I'LL GET A POLE, AND WE'LL GO FISHING IN THE SWIMMIN' HOLE...
TWING TWINGA TWANG


AHWACK KOFF KOFF KOFF
AW, SLOWPOKE... YOU'RE NOT WELL ENOUGH TO BE IN THE SHOW.
OH, I... I KNOW IT, MISS CHERRY. I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT YOU.
EVERYBODY GETS SICK SOMETIMES.
YOU'LL GET WELL FASTER IF YOU GET SOME REST.
GOOD LUCK KOFF WITH YOUR CONCERT, MISS CHERRY!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME... STAY IN BED AND TAKE YOUR VITAMINS!
I GUESS THERE WON'T BE ANY BANJO-PLAYING BEES OPENING FOR MY SHOW THIS TIME.
BUT I THINK I KNOW WHERE I MIGHT FIND A LAST MINUTE REPLACEMENT...
... THE BERRY CAFÉ!
OPEN MIC TONIGHT
Don't be shy
Show off
instead!
6-8 PM

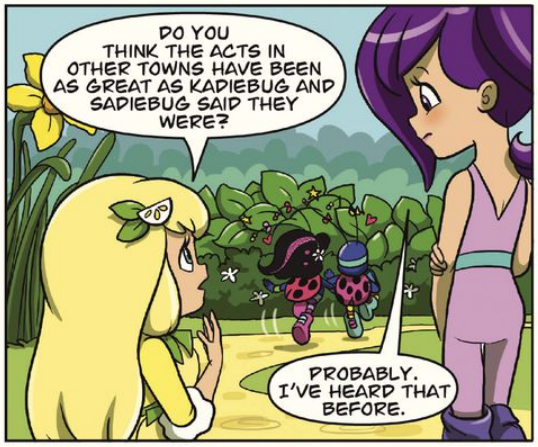
--AND THAT WAS LEMON MERINGUE AND PUPCAKE PERFORMING THEIR NEWEST TRICK, THE SUPER HOOP LOOP-DE-LOOP!
LET'S GIVE THEM A HAND!
AND NOW, BLUEBERRY MUFFIN WILL PERFORM SPECTACULAR FEATS OF MAGIC AND MYSTERY.
I WILL NEED A BRAVE VOLUNTEER FROM THE AUDIENCE.
I CHOOSE... CHERRY JAM!!
OH! THIS IS SOOO EXCITING.
SHE'S ACTUALLY HERE.
OH WHY DIDN'T I BRING MY AUTOGRAPH BOOK TO OPEN MIC NIGHT?!

BUT WE THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOING TO BE IN BERRY BITTY CITY UNTIL THURSDAY.
I CAME EARLY TO WORK ON THE SHOW. I WANTED TO MAKE IT BETTER THAN EVER...
BUT WHEN I GOT HERE I FOUND OUT MY OPENING ACT IS TOO SICK TO GO ON!
SO I CAME STRAIGHT HERE TO SIGN UP HIS REPLACEMENT - STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE.
OH!
WELL, I DID OPEN FOR YOU ONCE LAST FALL...
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING NEW READY...
STRAWBERRY... THIS IS A CHERRY JAM CONCERT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YOU HAVE TO SAY YES.
WELL OF COURSE SHE WOULD ASK STRAWBERRY FIRST. SHE'S VERY TALENTED AND SHE HAS EXPERIENCE.
I WOULD GIVE ANYTHING FOR A CHANCE LIKE THAT.
SO WOULD I.
SOMEDAY MAYBE.

CHERRY, I'M BERRY HONORED THAT YOU THOUGHT OF ME FIRST.
BUT I'VE ALREADY BEEN IN YOUR SHOW. I THINK YOU SHOULD GIVE SOMEONE ELSE A CHANCE THIS TIME.
WELL, I DO LIKE TO KEEP MY CONCERTS FRESH, BUT HOW WILL I FIND SOMEONE ELSE ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE?
YOU CAN HOLD AUDITIONS!
BERRY BITTY CITY JUST HAPPENS TO BE OVERFLOWING WITH UNDISCOVERED TALENT.
UNDISCOVERED TALENT, EH? I LIKE IT.
THE NEXT SLOWPOKE STU COULD BE RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME...
WITHOUT THE MOUSTACHE OF COURSE.
TRUST ME.
AUDITIONS START WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 9:00 SHARP!
ISN'T IT EXCITING, RASPBERRY?
YES - BUT NOW I HAVE TO COME UP WITH AN ACT!
WHEW

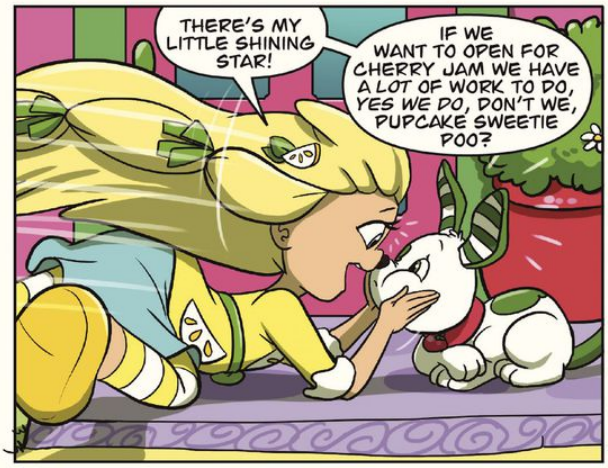

ONE... TWO... THREE... AND STRETCH...
HI PLUM PUDDING!
HI LEMON MERINGUE!
HI KADIEBUG AND SADIEBUG.
ARE YOU PRACTICING FOR CHERRY JAM'S SHOW?
YOU TOTALLY LOOK LIKE YOU ARE.
PLUM AND I ARE BOTH GOING TO TRY OUT. ARE YOU GOING TO AUDITION TOO?
PFFFT OF COURSE NOT.
WE CAN'T SEE THE CONCERT IF WE'RE IN THE CONCERT.
WE WENT TO 35 CHERRY JAM CONCERTS LAST YEAR.
WE'RE GOING FOR THE FAN CLUB RECORD.
CHERRY JAM FANCLUB CRITTER
HER OPENING ACTS ARE ALWAYS FANTASTIC. DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRE-BREATHING ROCK BAND IN LEAFVILLE?
HOW COULD I FORGET? I DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER I SHOULD DANCE, SING ALONG, OR ROAST A HOT DOG!

BUT DON'T WORRY. I'M SURE YOUR ACTS ARE JUST AS AMAZING AS ALL OF THE OTHERS HAVE BEEN.
WE KNOW CHERRY WILL MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE.


DO YOU THINK THE ACTS IN OTHER TOWNS HAVE BEEN AS GREAT AS KADIEBUG AND SADIEBUG SAID THEY WERE?
PROBABLY. I'VE HEARD THAT BEFORE.

I... UH... JUST REMEMBERED I NEED TO GO DO SOMETHING.
OH... YEAH...
I ALSO JUST REMEMBERED THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO DO... IN ANOTHER PLACE.

I WONDER IF I HAVE ENOUGH GLITTER TO COVER MY DANCE SHOES?
PUPCAKE!


THERE'S MY LITTLE SHINING STAR!
IF WE WANT TO OPEN FOR CHERRY JAM WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO, YES WE DO, DON'T WE, PUPCAKE SWEETIE POO?

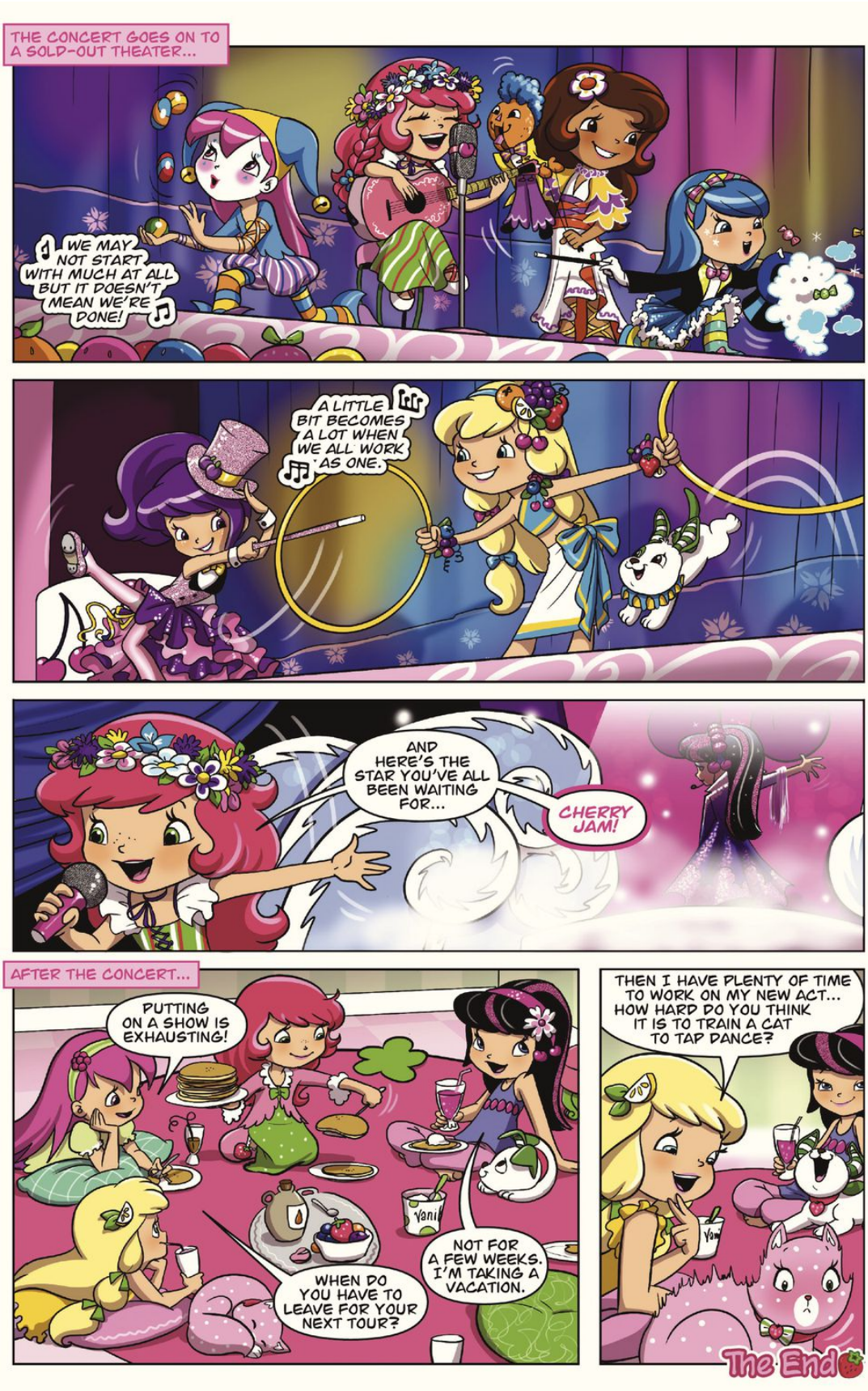
HRRMPH.

I HEARD EVERYONE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT TO GET READY FOR THE AUDITIONS THIS MORNING.
AUDITIONS
9:00 ~ 12:00
BERRYKINS AMPHITHEATER
BOPPO
I SURE DID. I HAD JUST ENOUGH TIME TO MAKE A NEW PUPPET.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
UH... INTERESTING.
ORANGE BLOSSOM!
=GULP=
BREAK A LEG!
FIRST ON STAGE... ORANGE BLOSSOM AND HER LITTLE FRIEND BOPPO.
GOOD LUCK, ORANGE!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BERRY BITTY CITY, BOPPO?
IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU LIKE FLOWERS AND SUNSHINE.
OH!
DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD, BOPPO...
HEH... HEH...
THUK

ORANGE BLOSSOM'S ACT MIGHT NEED A LITTLE MORE POLISH.
NEXT!
NOW ON STAGE... THE GREAT BLUEBERRY MAGNIFICO!
WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE WILL TRULY AMAZE YOU.
UM... IGNORE ALL OF THAT STUFF.
PICK A CARD...
ANY CARD...
OOPS!
WATCH OUT!
AAK

NEXT!
SORRY ABOUT THAT CHERRY, ARE YOU OK?
I DIDN'T EXPECT THESE AUDITIONS TO BE SO... INTERACTIVE.
RASPBERRY TORTE, JUGGLER EXTRAORDINAIRE...
OOPS... UH...
I JUST LEARNED HOW TO DO THIS YESTERDAY...
LET ME TRY ONE MORE TIME.
PLUM PUDDING AND THE "DANCE OF THE PEACOCK"!
MAY I START OVER? I THINK I BROKE A SHOELACE.
SOMEWHERE.
HANG ON FOR ONE TEENSY BITTY MOMENT WHILE I HAVE A LITTLE CONFERENCE WITH MY PARTNER.
PUPCAKE, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?
IT'S NOT THAT MUCH TALLER THAN IT WAS DURING PRACTICE.
NEXT!

LATER...
ARE THERE ANY ACTS LEFT TO SEE?
NO MISS SHORTCAKE, THAT WAS THE LAST ONE.
I WAS AFRAID OF THAT.
CHERRY, I -
I'LL TAKE THEM ALL!
WHAT?!
I CAN SEE IT NOW - A BIG SPLASHY NUMBER HONORING THE EARLY DAYS OF MUSICAL THEATER!
WE'LL PUT EVERYONE IN VINTAGE COSTUMES, WE'LL GET A PIANO... THERE'LL BE VENTRILOQUISTS, MAGICIANS, CLOWNS...
THIS WILL BE A CONCERT NO ONE WILL EVER FORGET - AND I'LL NEED HELP FROM YOU ALL TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!
I LOVE IT!

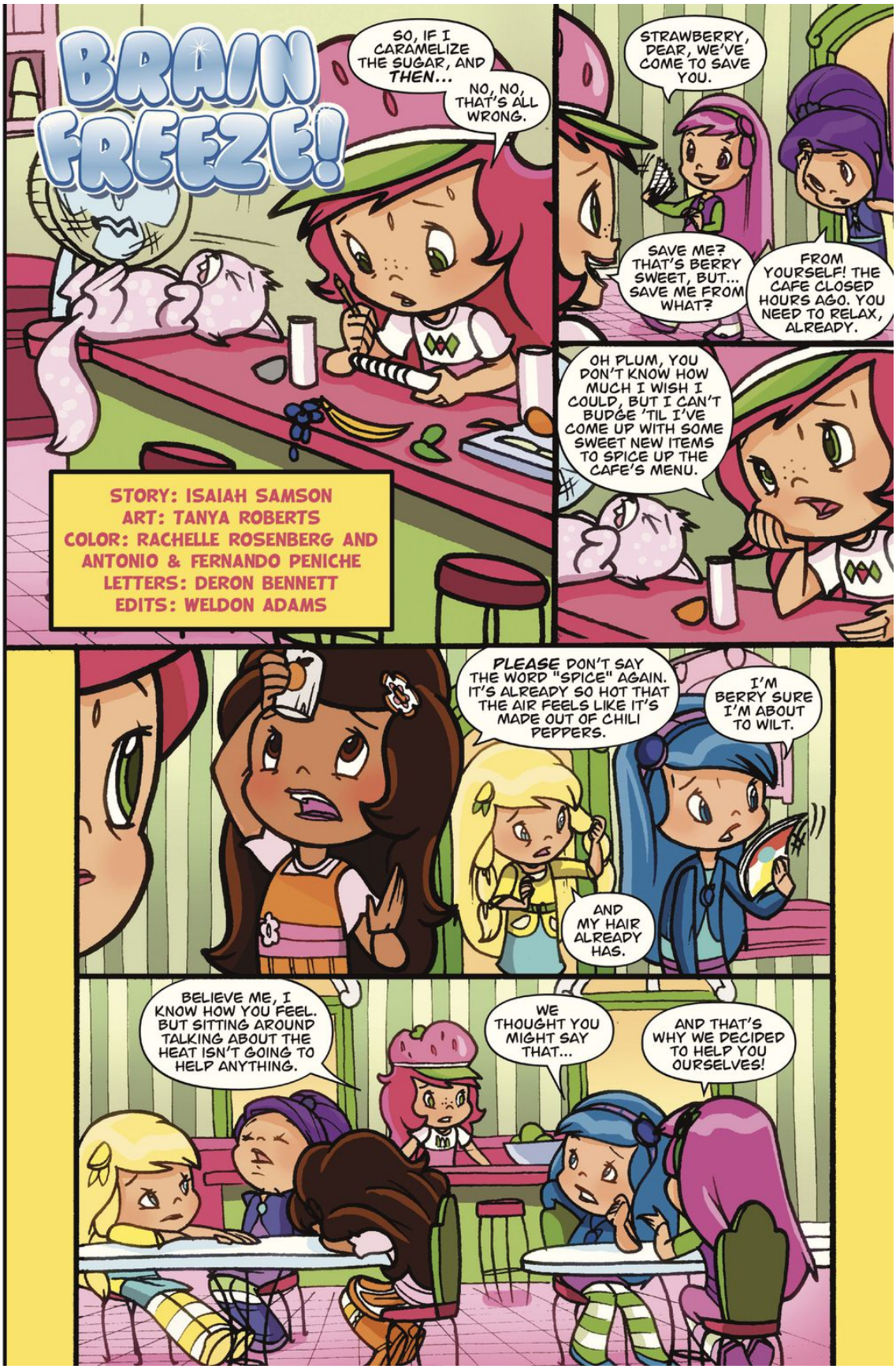

THE CONCERT GOES ON TO A SOLD-OUT THEATER...
WE MAY NOT START WITH MUCH AT ALL BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE DONE!
A LITTLE BIT BECOMES A LOT WHEN WE ALL WORK AS ONE.
AND HERE'S THE STAR YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR...
CHERRY JAM!
AFTER THE CONCERT...
PUTTING ON A SHOW IS EXHAUSTING!
WHEN DO YOU HAVE TO LEAVE FOR YOUR NEXT TOUR?
NOT FOR A FEW WEEKS. I'M TAKING A VACATION.
THEN I HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO WORK ON MY NEW ACT... HOW HARD DO YOU THINK IT IS TO TRAIN A CAT TO TAP DANCE?
The End

The Sweet Legend of BLACKBERRY'S Treasure
TIME FOR SOME FUN IN THE SUN!
SUGAR BEACH, HERE WE COME!
HAVE FUN, GIRLS! MAYBE YOU'LL FIND OLD PIRATE BLACKBERRY'S TREASURE. IT'S SAID TO BE BURIED OUT IN THAT GIANT SAND TRAP...
Story: Heather Nuhfer
Pencils: Kelly Grupczynski
Colors: Antonio & Fernando Peniche
Letters: AW's Adrian Martinez
Edits: Weldon Adams
IT SAYS HERE THAT BLACKBERRY'S TREASURE CONTAINS THE THING YOUR HEART DESIRES MOST!
THAT SOUNDS GREAT!
The Legend of Pirate Blackberry
A BERRY SHORT TIME LATER...
FIND ANYTHING, BLUEBERRY?
NOTHING GOOD YET! THIS METAL DETECTOR SURE IS FUN, THOUGH!
I WONDER IF PIRATE BLACKBERRY'S TREASURE IS REALLY BURIED HERE...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...

BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
GASP!
WE FOUND SOMETHING!! SOMETHING BIG!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
SORRY, LEMON...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
BIP...
AFTER SOME DIGGING...
WOW! A REAL TREASURE CHEST! IT HAS TO BE PIRATE BLACKBERRY'S!
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS INSIDE?

I HOPE IT'S BEAUTIFUL STRANDS OF PURE GOLD!
MAYBE IT'S A FIRST EDITION OF MY FAVORITE BOOK, "A TALE OF TWO KITTIES."
OR A ZIRCON 82 ZOOM SPECIAL!
?!
UH... MADE OF GOLD!
AND BEAUTIFUL SILK FROM FAR AWAY LANDS!
OR THE BERRY BEST MUSIC BOX EVER!
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS IN THERE, STRAWBERRY?

WELL, GEE, I HOPE EVERYONE GETS WHAT THEY WANT! I'M TOO EXCITED TO WAIT ANY LONGER!
LET'S SEE WHAT OLD BLACKBERRY LEFT FOR US!
OOOF!
PHEW!
XREEEEEEK!
WHAT A BUMMER!
YEAH...
HOLD ON, GIRLS. THESE SHELLS MAY BE THE BEST TREASURE WE COULD'VE FOUND!
WHAT GREAT SOUVENIRS OF OUR DAY AT SUGAR BEACH!
WE SHOULD MAKE ONE FOR MR. LONGFACE.
YOU KNOW, STRAWBERRY, IMAGINING WHAT WAS IN THE CHEST WAS REALLY FUN!
I THINK WE FOUND SOMETHING BETTER THAN TREASURE!
WE SURE DID - HAVING FUN TOGETHER IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN ALL THE GOLD IN THE SEA!
The End


BRAIN FREEZE!
SO, IF I CARAMELIZE THE SUGAR, AND THEN...
NO, NO, THAT'S ALL WRONG.
STORY: ISAIAH SAMSON
ART: TANYA ROBERTS
COLOR: RACHELLE ROSENBERG AND ANTONIO & FERNANDO PENICHE
LETTERS: DERON BENNETT
EDITS: WELDON ADAMS
STRAWBERRY, DEAR, WE'VE COME TO SAVE YOU.
SAVE ME? THAT'S BERRY SWEET, BUT... SAVE ME FROM WHAT?
FROM YOURSELF! THE CAFE CLOSED HOURS AGO. YOU NEED TO RELAX, ALREADY.
OH PLUM, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH I WISH I COULD, BUT I CAN'T BUDGE 'TIL I'VE COME UP WITH SOME SWEET NEW ITEMS TO SPICE UP THE CAFE'S MENU.
PLEASE DON'T SAY THE WORD "SPICE" AGAIN. IT'S ALREADY SO HOT THAT THE AIR FEELS LIKE IT'S MADE OUT OF CHILI PEPPERS.
I'M BERRY SURE I'M ABOUT TO WILT.
AND MY HAIR ALREADY HAS.
BELIEVE ME, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. BUT SITTING AROUND TALKING ABOUT THE HEAT ISN'T GOING TO HELP ANYTHING.
WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT SAY THAT...
AND THAT'S WHY WE DECIDED TO HELP YOU OURSELVES!

YOU ALL ARE SO SWEET TO BE SO CONCERNED, BUT EVEN I'M STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT ...AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE EXPERT!
EVEN GENIUSES HAVE ASSISTANTS, YOU KNOW.
WE MAY NOT BE QUEENS OF THE KITCHEN THE WAY YOU ARE...
BUT YOU'VE NEVER HESITATED TO HELP US WHEN WE NEEDED IT. HOW COULD WE DO DIFFERENTLY?
WELL, IF YOU ALL INSIST... WHAT CAN I SAY EXCEPT THAT I'M LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS?
OVENS...? BUT IT'S SO HOT ALREADY...
MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST, UM... BRAINSTORM A WHILE LONGER.
AGREED!
NOW, LET'S CRANK UP THOSE OVENS AND GET BAKING!

A BERRY SHORT TIME LATER...
SO, IF I ADD IN SOME...
NO, NO, NO... THE JAM WOULD TURN IT ALL INTO A BIG PUDDLE OF GOOP!
WELL, BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD.
HOW ABOUT YOU ALL... ANYTHING YET?
NO SUCH LUCK.
UUUUGH...
NOTHING AT ALL?
WE'RE SORRY, STRAWBERRY. WE REALLY TRIED.
IT'S JUST TOO HOT TO THINK.
WHAT IF I WENT TO THE ORANGE MART AND GOT US SOME NICE, COLD TREATS?
OH, ORANGE, YOU'RE A GENIUS!
SHE IS?
TOO...
HOT...
FOR...
HUGS...

FIRST THE EQUIPMENT...
AND THEN THE INGREDIENTS! COULD I GET A HAND, LADIES?
THUNK!
BLEND
SUGARY PLUM AND LEMON JUICE MAKES FOR SWEET-AND-SOUR PLUM LEMONADE...
RASPBERRY AND BLUEBERRY FOR A TASTY BERRY PUNCH FLAVOR...
AND FINALLY ORANGE WITH STRAWBERRY PIECES. YUM!
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WE'RE MAKING, BUT IT SOUNDS DELICIOUS!
THE ONLY THING AS COOL AS MY FRIENDS...
LATER...
ICE CREAM!
The End

The Mystery Dish"

By Heather Nuhfer

Strawberry Shortcake loves to make berry special treats for her friends, and especially on their birthdays! On Mr. Longface's birthday, Strawberry decided to make him the dish she made for him on his very first day in Berry Bitty City.

"Well, my dear girl," Mr. Longface said, sipping his afternoon tea, "that is a splendid idea, but please don't overwork yourself! Make anything you please. Anything at all."

"The only problem is that I can't remember the name of the recipe! Do you?" Strawberry asked.

"Oh," replied a fidgety Mr. Longface, "it was… well, hmmm… I can't remember exactly what it was called, but it had beautiful tomatoes and crunchy leeks in it. The herb blend was scrumptious!"

Strawberry thought as hard as she could, but couldn't remember what the recipe was called either. Aw, shucks! "I'm sure I'll remember it when I see it, Mr. Longface! I just need to look through my trusty recipe cards."

"I'm already looking forward to dinner tonight, Miss Strawberry! "Mr. Longface said, leaving the café. "It will be as delicious as I remember, I'm sure!"

Strawberry looked at every single recipe card in her big blue box of recipes, but couldn't find the right one! It wasn't Black Bean Bouillon or Red Radish Soufflé and certainly not Green Bean Almandine! Strawberry scratched her head. Where in the world could the recipe card have gone? Maybe it fell out of the box when it was on the tippy top shelf of the pantry!

She looked high and low, and in every nook and cranny she could find. Before long, she'd taken every single thing out of the pantry! Every muffin tin, every teaspoon, all the way down to the very last jar of peach preserves, but still no recipe!

Blueberry Muffin and Lemon Meringue stopped by the café for one of Strawberry's signature smoothies, but could see by the teetering towers of jam that their friend Strawberry sure could use some help restocking the pantry! While they tidied up, Strawberry explained her dilemma.

"Could you have lost the recipe outside somehow?" Blueberry asked while dusting the last shelf.

"Maybe it got stuck to your shoe yesterday after you accidentally broke that big jar of molasses!" Lemon said, pointing to a light brown (and still a little sticky) stain on the pantry floor.

"That's a great idea, Lemon!" Strawberry replied, "We should retrace my sticky steps!"

With their eyes focused on the ground,

the girls looked for the recipe on the cobblestone path to Berry Grove. Strawberry remembered going there to get some honey to replace the spilt sticky molasses.

"Hi, Strawberry…! Umm, can I help you?" The Littlest Berrykin asked, wondering why the girls were so fascinated by the ground. "Are your necks sore?"

Laughing, Strawberry replied, "Why hello, Littlest Berrykin! Our necks aren't sore. I've lost a berry important recipe card and we're looking for it. Have you seen it?"

"I'm sorry, I haven't, but never fear, Miss Strawberry! The Berrykins are here to help!" With that, The Littlest Berrykin scuttled about, organizing the Berrykins into search parties.

"If it's in the Grove, we'll find it!" The Littlest Berrykin exclaimed! "We'll leave no berry unturned!" The Berrykins zipped around, searching the entire grove top to bottom.

"I've found it! I've found it!" yelled a Berrykin from high in a glimmerberry tree.

Unfortunately, a Squawking Jay had used the recipe card for part of a nest! They aren't known for their sharing, either. The Berrykin tried his best to delicately slip the recipe out, but the Squawking Jay wouldn't give up without a fight! It nipped and, of course squawked, until the poor Berrykin had to cover its ears! Then the boisterous bird flew away, taking the precious recipe with it!

Oh no! The girls ran after the bird, hoping it would drop the recipe, but they quickly lost sight of the Squawking Jay.

In town, the word had spread and all of Berry Bitty City was pitching in to find the recipe for Mr. Longface, but they couldn't find anything either. Not even a slip of paper!

"At least Berry Bitty City is litter-free!" Lemon said, trying to raise everyone's spirits.

Strawberry told everyone about the pesky, recipe-stealing Squawking Jay, and they all returned to the Berry Café to drown their sorrows in frosty fruity smoothies.

"What are we gonna do, Strawberry?" Orange Blossom asked. "Without the recipe, we won't be able to make Mr. Longface's special dish."

"I wish we could make it for him Orange, but when life gives you lemons…" Strawberry starts.

"You make Lemon Meringue!" Her friends finish her sentence for her. They cheered up, remembering that together they could fix any problem!

"What are some of his other favorite dishes?" Strawberry asked.

Raspberry remembered, "He LOVED the Spring Squash Surprise you made!"

"And he's always talking about how wonderful the rosemary outside of the dance studio smells!" Plum Pudding added.

They recalled so many of Mr. Longface's favorite dishes that Blueberry had to make a list to keep track! Now, which one to make? Strawberry Shortcake knew what to do! She pondered the list until her brain and belly agreed – using parts of ALL his favorite dishes, they could make something brand NEW, just for Mr. Longface! They needed to hurry, though – the party would start soon!

The Berrykins hung the decorations. Orange and Plum blew up balloons, while Blueberry chopped veggies, Lemon stirred, and Strawberry got the seasonings just right! Just as Strawberry pulled a golden-crusted pot pie from the oven, Mr. Longface came bustling through the door, obviously excited about his party.

"Happy Birthday, Mr. Longface!" Everyone cheered!

Mr. Longface couldn't believe it! All of his friends were there – the café was filled to the brim! "Oh my goodness!" he exclaimed, "All my dear friends. What a wonderful birthday and… what's that scrumptious smell?"

Strawberry served up a special piece of the yummy potpie to Mr. Longface. "I'm sorry Mr. Longface, but we couldn't find your special recipe. Instead, we all worked together to create a special new recipe – just for you!"

Mr. Longface took a bite while everyone watched intently and hoped he would really like it! A huge smile crossed his face. "Delicious! It's like all my favorite dishes rolled into one!"

"We're so happy you like it!" Strawberry said, as her friends grinned proudly.

"I do have a bit of a confession", Mr. Longface sighed "the other dish was... not my favorite.

I just didn't want to hurt your feelings."

"Oh, Mr. Longface, don't worry." Strawberry assured him, "We're your friends. You can always be honest with us!"

"Thank you," he replied, "one thing is true… this delicious potpie is made with the finest of ingredients – friendship!"

THE END!

BERRY BITTY BITES

Did you enjoy the story "A Recipe for Friendship" in this very issue?

How would you like to make one of those great treats for yourself or your family? Here's how!

RECIPE

STRAWBERRY YOGURT PARFAIT

MAKES ONE SERVING

Ingredients:

Four medium sized strawberries, washed and sliced with stems removed

6oz vanilla yogurt

1/4 cup of granola cereal (a kind with no raisins)

Directions:

1. Spoon yogurt into a cereal bowl or sundae bowl,
2. Sprinkle granola atop the yogurt. Granola should coat the top of the yogurt and not overwhelm it.
3. Place the strawberries on top of the granola,
4. Use a spoon to swirl it together, if you prefer.
5. Serve, eat and enjoy!

And Remember...
Always have an adult supervise you in the kitchen!

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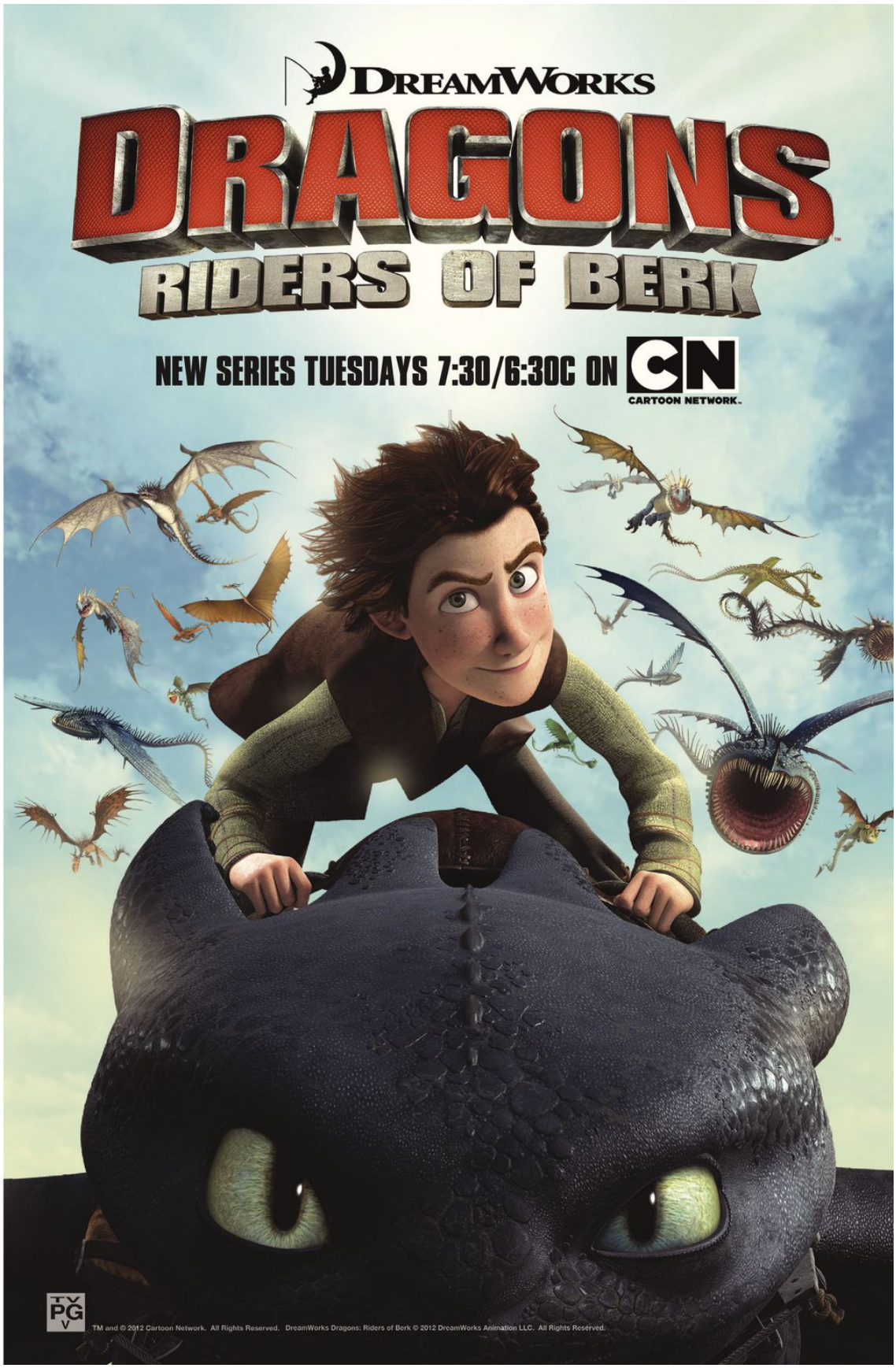
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Strawberry Shortcake™

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Strawberry Shortcake and her berry good friends are back!

In the lead story, it's time for the annual Berrykin Picnic! And Strawberry Shortcake and all of her friends are going. Everyone is berry, berry excited... everyone except Bosley Bookworm, that is! Strawberry discovers why he is not looking forward to the Field Day competitions, so she decides to help!

And in another story, Cherry Jam is set to perform...except her opening act is sick! What else can she do but turn to Strawberry Shortcake and the girls for help!

Contains stories pulled from Strawberry Shortcake Vol2 #'s 1 & 2

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